

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of creating a bacterial aggregate comprising the step of:

combining planktonic bacterial cells with an effective amount of lectin, wherein the amount of lectin is effective to bind the bacterial cells together in an aggregate.
2. An aggregate created by the method of claim 1.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the lectin is Concanavalin A.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial cells are homogeneous.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial cells are heterogenous.
6. The method of claim 1 additionally comprising the step of coating the bacterial aggregate with a second mixture of bacteria and lectin, whereby a lamellar aggregate is constructed.
7. The aggregate created by the method of claim 6.

8. A method of evaluating the efficacy of a biocide comprising the step of exposing the bacterial aggregate of claim 2 to the biocide and evaluating the viability of the bacterial cells within the aggregate.

9. A method of evaluating the efficacy of a biocide comprising the step of exposing the bacterial aggregate of claim 7 to the biocide and evaluating the viability of the bacterial cells within the aggregate.

10. A method of creating a microbial aggregate comprising the step of:

combining microbes with an effective amount of lectin, wherein the amount of lectin is effective to bind the microbes together in an aggregate.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the microbes comprise at least one member from the group consisting of bacteria, yeast and fungi.

12. An aggregate created by the method of claim 10.

13. A method of evaluating the efficacy of a biocide comprising the step of exposing the aggregate of claim 12 to

the biocide and evaluating the viability of organisms within the aggregate.